

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe (EPA 0526185 A2). In response, Applicants traverse the rejection because the cited reference does not disclose (or suggest) a rotation control method for controlling rotation of a CAV system recording medium that has, among other things, a controlling step that controls the rotational speed of the recording medium based on a detected state within the memory.

The Examiner cites Watanabe as teaching a controlling step for a rotation control method that switches and controls a recording medium based on a state detected by a detecting step, depending on whether an access request is a sequential access request or a random access request and also depending on an area of the recording medium accessed in response to the access request. (See Watanabe Col. 5, lns. 1-50, Col. 6, ln. 44 to Col. 7, ln. 22). However, Watanabe merely proposes controlling the rotation of the CAV system recording medium based on the amount of access data requested from a host unit. That is, the number of revolutions of the disk is controlled based on the amount of information to be recorded or reproduced. (See the Abstract).

In contrast, as recited in claim 1, the rotational speed of the recording medium is controlled based on the detected state within the memory, which temporarily stores write data to be written on the recording medium and/or read data read from the recording medium. Applicants respectfully submit that controlling the rotational speed based on a state within the memory as in the present invention is different from controlling the rotational speed based on the amount of data to be written on or read from

the recording medium, as taught by Watanabe. For at least this reason, the §102 rejection should be withdrawn.

In addition to the above, Applicants traverse the rejection because Watanabe fails to disclose (or suggest) a step that switches and controls the rotational speed of the recording medium depending on whether an access request is a sequential access request or a random access request. Rather, Watanabe teaches on page 5, lns. 48-50 that information below 420 K byte is stored, and that when the information exceeds 420 K byte, the processing time to rev up the number of revolutions to a number of revolutions corresponding to a zone that is sought for recording/reproduction is shortened. Watanabe fails to disclose a detecting step that depends on whether the access request is a sequential access request or a random access request. For this additional reason, withdrawal of the §102 rejection is respectfully requested.

With respect to claim 19, the Examiner equates the “frequency of the seeking to the zone B exceeds 90%” on page 6, line 36 of Watanabe as being equivalent to the predetermined percentage of the total capacity of the memory or greater of the present invention (see Watanabe page 5, line 48 to page 6, line 41 and FIGs. 5-8). However, page 6, lines 36-37 of Watanabe merely teach that the frequency with which seeking and recording/reproduction are executed in a zone B exceeds 90%. A CPU 8 then judges whether the zone B exceeds 90% in accordance with the content of the memory to cause a number of revolutions of the spindle motor 2 to be revved up to 3000 RPM after the recording/reproduction process is terminated (page 6, lns. 36-41). Applicants respectfully submit that the “content of the memory”, as discussed in


Watanabe, does not correspond to the total capacity of the memory, as recited in claim 19. For this reason, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 19, and request withdrawal of the §102 rejection on this basis.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 15, 2005

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